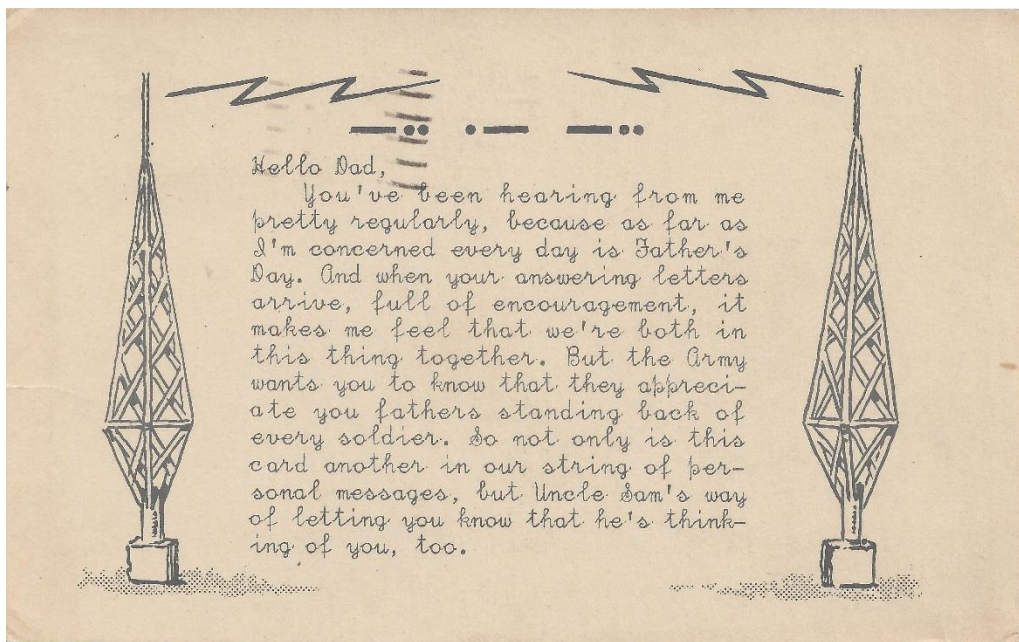


The

Call Letter

June 2020

Vol 46, #6



During World War II, Scott Field was one of the Army Air Corp's key training facilities for Radio Operators and Radio Mechanics. Pvt Raymond Fisher, a Scott Field trainee, sent off this Father's Day card in June, 1944. Note the Morse Code spelling out "Dad" at the top of the card. Scott Field has a fascinating story. You can read more about it in the April issue of *Radio Age* magazine (available in the NVRS library). - Dan Howard

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society

Post Office Box 82379
Portland, Oregon 97282-0379

The Northwest Vintage Radio Society is a non-profit historical society incorporated in the State of Oregon. Since 1974 the Society has been dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of "Vintage Radio" and wireless equipment.

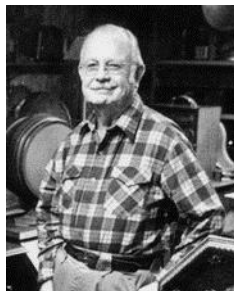
Membership in the Society is open to all who are actively interested in historic preservation. The dues are \$25.00 for domestic membership, due on January 1st of each year (prorated quarterly).

The Call Letter has been a monthly publication since 1974. It was originated with the founder, Bob Bilbie, and our first president, Harley Perkins. Through several editors and with the assistance of numerous society members, the Call Letter has continued to be a publication that informs members of the society's business and that supports the hobby of collecting, preserving, and restoring vintage radios.

Society meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at the Abernethy Grange Hall at 15745 S. Harley Ave. in Oregon City, Oregon. They convene at or about 9:30 AM for the purpose of displaying radios, conducting Society business, and exchanging information. Guests are welcome at all Society meetings and functions (except board meetings).

Other Society functions include guest speakers, auctions, radio shows, and radio sales which are advertised in the Call Letter and are held in and around Portland.

With each issue of the Call Letter, we remember Jim Mason, a charter member of the society who remained active until his death in 1999. A generous bequest from Jim's estate ensures the vitality of the Northwest Vintage Radio Society, and continued publication of the Call Letter.



Society Officers

President	Pat Kagi 360 909-7009	patkagi@yahoo.com
Vice President	Franklin Ouchida	crazykeychains@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ed Tompkins (360) 573-3895	edtomp@Q.com
Recording Sec'y	Liles Garcia (503) 649-9288	landn2@frontier.com
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Board member at large	Mike McCrow (503) 730-4639	soundmikey14@gmail.com
Librarian	Jeff LaDoe (503) 408-4446	flat4pdx@gmail.com
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On the Cover

Father's Day card Dan Howard found while researching Scott Field

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Announcements

June 2020 meeting - Sat. June 13 - Online meeting, details in email

June Monthly Feature - Radios with a "D" in their name

June Tech Talk - None this month

June Tube of the Month - Tube of the Month for June 2020. DeForest D-01A. Version of the industry 201A. Tipped S14 bulb on an isolantite UX base. Offered only in 1927. - Mike McCrow

Leads and Needs - The Swap Shop is for members' classified ads. Ads are free and can either be permanent or temporary.

Swap Meet Coordinator's Note - Anyone that has reserved tables for the Spring Swap Meet has the option to roll over their paid fees to the Fall Swap Meet, or have them refunded. Thank you, Robbie Robinson

Editor's Note - Please have July Call Letter contributions in by Sunday, June 28. Articles & Ads welcome. (Tube labels too). (No Calendar of Events this month due to cancellations)

Visit our web site at:

www.nwvrs.com

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/nwvrs

President's Message for June 2020:

I hope and pray that everyone is well and able to keep themselves safe from becoming sick. I hope that we can all come together and help each other out during this crisis as I would like to think of you as not just members of a society, but more like family.

With that being said, I would like anyone to contact me directly if the NWVRS members are the closest people in your life that can come to your aid, if needed. This would apply to anyone who does not have any relatives either living or close by. We will keep a confidential list and contact you on a regular basis to check up on you. You can email me at patkagi@yahoo.com or call me at (360) 909-7009.

We will be having virtual meetings in the coming months, but you will need a laptop computer, smart phone or a land line to be able to participate.

Thanks and take care, Pat

Vice President's Message for June 2020:

Feature of the month is "D" - if you can show it on Zoom please have it ready to display and tell its story!

Please call or email me if you have any questions about Zoom.

I am in hunt for a member to do a Tech Talk over Zoom?

Would you share your bio with the members? We would like to have your bibliography on record. We have so many talented members. We would like to share.

Please share questions you would like to ask of other members?

For the month of June, we will have a virtual meeting using a product called Zoom. To be able to attend, you will need an iPhone, Android phone, or a computer with a microphone and speaker. A web cam is not necessary, nor is a microphone, but we won't be able to hear from you or see you if you do not have those. Please contact us if you have any questions. We will conduct tests before May 9th, so it is important that you have an email address or a way of contacting you in advance. A call in number from any phone will be available soon.

It's just some thoughts. Franklin Terry Ouchida

NWVRS Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2020

By Liles Garcia, Secretary

The Zoom meeting started at 9:00 AM with President Pat Kagi calling the meeting to order. At about 9:30 AM, members pledged allegiance to our nation's flag.

Bruce Baur will have a brief hospital visit for some checks. Rick Ryan had a short hospital visit and is back home now.

There is no new information on the Barry Gilbert and Galen Feight estates. Our group would like to find more audio and hifi collectors groups to work with. One idea is to offer a free swap table for these groups. Members showed some of their radios and a vintage TV to the group. Larry Osbourne gave a Tech-Talk on making AC/DC radios safe against electrical shock. Many thanks to Larry for his interesting and helpful information!! Mike McCrow discussed the Cunningham Tube Company and how they worked with RCA to make tubes. The two companies later merged.

Our meeting was adjourned. Recorded by Secretary Liles Garcia

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(Registered)

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sharp, clear, mellow tones—
music with its delightful and thrilling modulations—
speeches without distortion, audible down to a whisper—
and all the other joys of Radio at their best

Three Models

O. T. 1A—2 to 4 volts,
Battery Draw .15 amps. Price, \$6.00

O. T. 9—2 to 4 volts,
Battery Draw .06 amps. Price, \$6.50

O. T. Power Tube—5 volts,
Battery Draw .25 to .35 amps. Price, \$7.50

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Write for complete literature.*

Manufactured by DeForest Tel. & Tel. Co.
Exclusively for the
O. & T. Electric Corporation
1819 Broadway, New York
High class representatives wanted.

The O-T is the only genuine Silvertone Tube.
Fully guaranteed.
Beware of imitations.



KPQ Wenatchee – Maritime Mobile

by Dan Howard



Figure 1 - KPQ's transmitter building goes "rafting." (Wenatchee World photo)

The KPQ transmitter site, once known as the "KPQ Ranch," is a flat grassy patch on the westerly shore of the Columbia just downstream from the confluence with the Wenatchee River. What could go wrong?

As the flood surge moved down the Columbia, and water rose inch-by-inch, station engineers, aided by a team of house movers, jacked the transmitter building several feet off its foundation. Then, six huge war-surplus rubber assault pontoons were inserted under the building. Amazingly, when water overtopped the building's foundation, the 30-ton building simply floated. KPQ was "on the air!" And Maritime Mobile! Or, as close to it as they likely ever want to be. The building was off its foundation for six weeks, at times floating in as much as 13 feet of water.

Though the building floated, the coaxial cable feedlines to the transmitting towers were lost early. "To keep the station in operation, Chief Engineer George Frese climbed up one of the towers in the middle of the night, in a howling gale, to hang a shunt feed wire. He literally swam around the transmitter building with a pair of pliers in his teeth."¹

¹ The Oscillator pg. 20

Throughout the emergency, power and phone lines to the building were maintained, keeping KPQ on the air. Operators commuted to and from the transmitter building in rowboats and worked wearing rubber life jackets.

As you might expect, the radio raft with the transmitter building did not prove to be especially seaworthy. In addition to the engineering spaces, a wing of the L-shaped building was used to store some heavy equipment and thousands of 78 rpm records. Lacking the support of rigid foundation, the old building timbers soon began to sag and the raft developed a significant list. Announcer Bob Richardson was on duty when a crack began to open between the storage wing and the main building. While he was reading an ad live on the air, a key beam broke and the building tipped, spilling records into the flood water. Rather than the planned announcement, listeners heard Bob scream "...the beam broke – we're sinking!" This, of course, brought folks from all over the area to watch the building founder.

Additional KPQ staff quickly arrived and began using rafts and boats to ferry what they could to dry land and restore trim to the structure. Though they removed most of the equipment from the storage wing, the building continued to list badly. In a last-ditch effort to save the transmitter and keep the station on the air, the engineers used saws and axes to cut the storage wing free from the main building. Once freed, the storage wing quickly sank, carrying thousands of records to the bottom with it. To everyone's relief the remaining structure righted itself and the transmitter remained afloat until the water eventually receded.



Figure 2 - KPQ's transmitter building before the storage wing went "overboard." (The Oscillator)

Compare the two photos of KPQ's radio raft. Figure 2 shows the building intact. Figure 1 was taken after the storage wing sank. Note the empty rafts to the right of the building and the hole in the siding.

KPQ's broadcasts are credited with saving at least one Wenatchee Valley town from flooding. Late one night a frantic telephone call came into the station from Cashmere, 12 miles northwest. The Wenatchee River was washing away a dike and more workers were needed. KPQ broadcasted the plea and soon 400 volunteers were on site. Then, Cashmere's stock of sandbags was exhausted. More than 8,000 bags were available in Wenatchee, but there were no trucks to haul them. Another radio plea brought trucks of all sizes to the Centennial flour mill to load and haul the sand to Cashmere. The dike held and the town was saved.

KPQ was first licensed in Seattle with the call letters KGCL on September 3, 1926. In 1928, the station's call sign was changed to KPQ. After a series of ownership and frequency changes, the station was moved from Seattle to Wenatchee in Central Washington. KPQ began broadcasting on 1210 AM from the Cascadian Hotel in Wenatchee on December 28, 1929. The first transmitting antenna was a wire run out of an eighth-floor window to the roof of an adjacent garage.

In 1937, KPQ leased their current transmitting site along the Columbia River and built a 180-foot tower. An old, small grocery store building was moved in to house the transmitter. The inaugural broadcast from the new site took place on June 27, 1937.

On April 1, 1942, KPQ moved to its present frequency of 560 AM. The old 180-foot tower was replaced with the two 300-foot towers and power was increased to 1,000 watts.

Sources:

<https://www.fybush.com/sites/2007/site-070427.html>

"Flood Aid – Radio Continues Major Role," *Broadcasting*, June 14, 1948 pp 25 & 64.

KPQ (AM) – Wikipedia

"Flood Role – Radio Guides Rescue Work," *Broadcasting*, June 7, 1948 pp. 22 & 72.

"Transmitter Building Ahoy!" *Western Electric Oscillator*, November, 1948 pg. 20.

Precision 852 mystery

by Pat Kagi

Thanks everyone for their help on this instrument.

Every once in a while you come across stories on the internet about some unusual treasure buried somewhere or found in an unusual place. Complete with tons and tons of ads.

Will this story be any different? What treasure could possibly be found inside an old electronic device? Gold? Silver? The final resting place of Black Beard's treasure? What could it possibly be? Or would we find nothing?

I happen to find this old device buried beneath years of discarded items in my garage, just waiting to be discovered.

My curiosity got the best part of me as I asked around on what this device was. The general consensus was to open it up and find out what was in it!

Inside the mysterious box just happened to be some old wires. I was disappointed at what I found, but decided to press on.



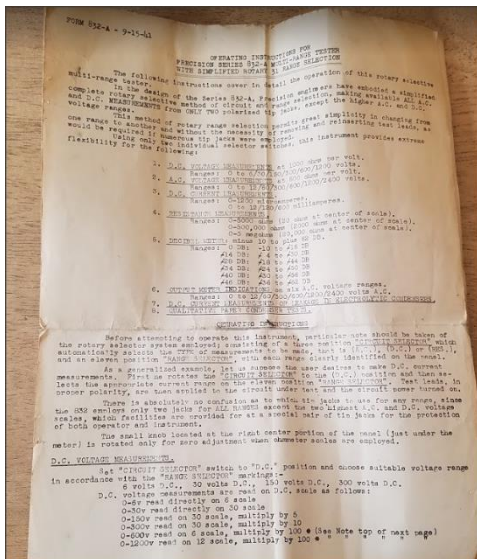
I just knew there had to be more. My hand nervously grasped a screw driver and proceeded to remove the first screw. After removing all six screws, my heart was racing and my hands were sweating! What could be inside this mystery box?



I started to lift it open and could start to see. . . Inside the box was a battery and then some sort of antique document.



What did was it? Was it a treasure map of some sort? I carefully took the document out and gently opened it up, trying not to harm it in any way.



Would I be the first one to read it any many, many years? I finally uncovered what this ancient document was and the secrets it possessed!

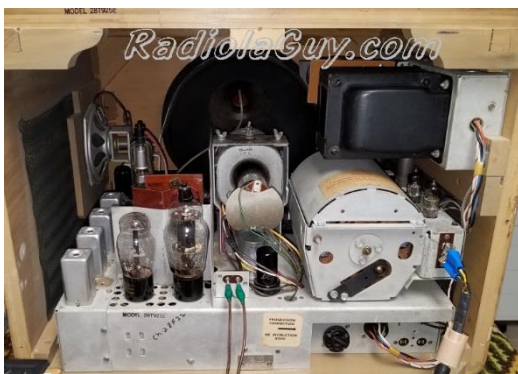
It just happened to be the instruction manual and a relatively modern 1.5 battery in it, but the instruction books calls for a 3 volt battery. Will it work with just a 1.5 battery?

Who can solve this mystery? Thanks for reading! Pat

Radiolaguy's Monthly Showcase - by Sonny Clutter

(No new Showcase item for June but always worth a look!!)

May 2020 – Zenith 28T925 “Porthole” Television ca. 1948



http://www.radiolaguy.com/Showcase/VintageTV/Zenith_28T925%20Porthole%20TV.htm

C. E. "Sonny" Clutter; AKA: the RadiolaGuy

Web Site: www.radiolaguy.com Email: radiolaguy@outlook.com

Swap Shop

Ads are free and can be permanent, or 3-month, with an asterisk added each month for tracking. Contact editor to extend.

Please contact the following members to be trained in Radio Repair:

Bruce Baur	503 708-4537	Milwaukee
Blake Dietze	360 944-7172	Vancouver
Mike McCrow	503 730-4639	Aloha
Sid Saul	503 869-5280	Hebo
Ed Tompkins	360 573-3895	Vancouver

WANTED: Radios made in Oregon. I do have some to trade. Thanks in advance. Dick Howard (503) 775-6697 dhoward27@comcast.net

FOR SALE: Hammarlund HQ-180 general coverage short wave receiver, 18 tube triple conversion. Plays well on all bands and in excellent condition. Asking \$165.00 or best offer. Ray Nelson 503 845-2897 <radoray39@gmail.com> **

FOR SALE: General Electric Model J-105 Console radio.

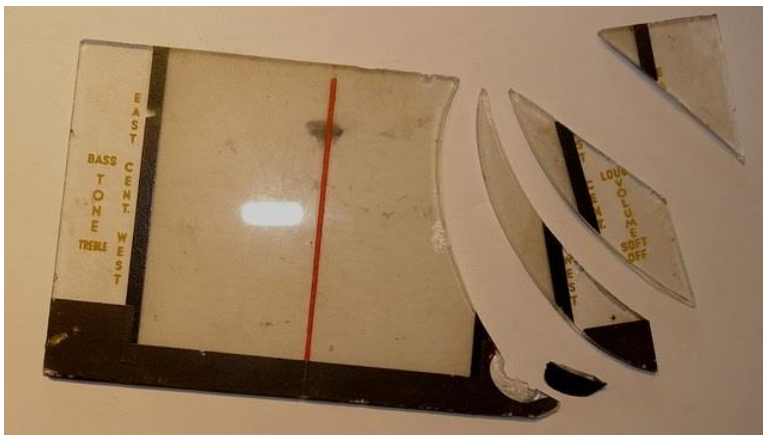
All 10 tubes on chassis. Speaker and several knobs are missing. Cabinet has some scratches but no major damage.

Best offer.

Craig Wohlgemuth, cw2engineering@comcast.net, or call 360-901-1330.



WANTED: Glass screen and rectangular brass dial bezel for an Airline model 62-337 "Moviedial" radio. The part number for the glass screen is P-58X131, but I don't have a part number for the bezel. There are two different Moviedial glass screens and bezels. The screen and bezel I need are for the table radio models. Most of the console models used a different screen and bezel. Please contact John Cushing at 360-701-6125 or email OR-7@bendbroadband.com
THANKS!



WANTED: Austrian Minerva receiver model 388 made in 1937-1938. The model number should be on the center column on the front bakelite housing below the magic eye but if missing will be stamped on the back. Bob Krassa bob@krassa.com or call 303-475-2824. Thanks!

(Member of the Colorado Radio Collectors Antique Radio Club) ***

WANTED: Want to purchase a nice clean vintage, recurrent sweep (not triggered sweep) scope such as: Heathkit; O-10, O-11, 10 -10 or 10-4105 or something similar. Need not to be in working order but must be clean and very good and restorable condition. I will pay your fair asking price if you have what I am seeking. C. E. "Sonny" Clutter; AKA: the RadiolaGuy

Email: radiolaguy@outlook.com ***

WANTED: I wish to purchase a 1942 Model 985866 Portable radio as pictured. Please contact me at 360 695-6349 or (C) 360 989-5981. The radio is ID'd by the Model # and the GM under the dial. - Ray Holland ***



FOR SALE: B.F. Goodrich Model R459 AM + SW (big console) \$20
Call Robbie Robinson 503 810 0565 ***

WANTED: I need the cable that plugs into the 6 pin male receptacle in the right picture. I also need the schematic for this unit. I have very little information about this unit except it will operate from household current or from a 6-volt source in an automobile. I would like to restore this unit and make it operational.

Raymond Holland, chev33radio@comcast.net *



56 RADIO AGE for December, 1924

BAKELITE

Trade Mark Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.



K. & C. DeLuxe and Bakelite

For clear radio reception, reliable insulation is essential. That is why the Kilbourne & Clark Mfg. Co. uses Bakelite—radio's premier insulation—for this K. & C. DeLuxe receiving set.

Manufacturers who use Bakelite insulation guarantee good results from their radio sets. Amateurs will do well to profit by the experience of these radio experts and use Bakelite when building their own sets.

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The Bakelite Radio Map lists the call letters, wave length and location of every broadcasting station in the world. Enclose 10 cents to cover the cost and we will send you this map. Address Map Department.



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THE MATERIAL OF A THOUSAND USES



In times such as these.

I'm out of work like many of you. We will be for the foreseeable future. I miss seeing, carousing, comparing notes, and reminiscing with you. I hope you're staying safe.

I compiled my own newsletter from snippets of material from my history as a newsletter editor (one who has edited for 25 years) just for you to enjoy. It's FREE. Just download it and enjoy, until we can all get together again.. Stay Safe.

My gift to you in these trying times

Duke Korman



Visit Relivingradio.com

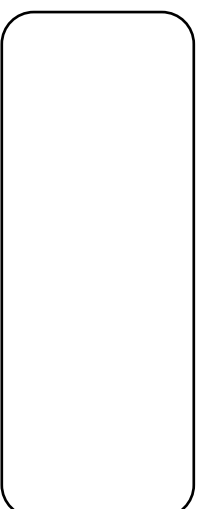
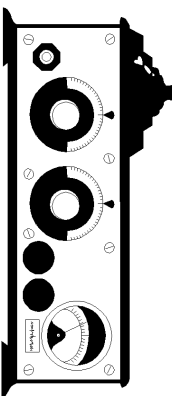
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